

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /012 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 219659

TOSEC 178

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ACCRA, LAGOS, MONROVIA,
NAIROBI, NIAMEY, RABAT, TEL AVIV, TUNIS, USUN NEW YORK FROM ABIDJAN
NOV 7 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 7659

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IV, XF, IS

SUYDECT: AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

REF: ABIDJAN 7640 (NOTAL)

1. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR YOSHA CONTACTED DCM LATE LAST NIGHT TO
REPORT THAT PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET HAD RECEIVED HIM FOR MORE THAN
ONE HOUR IN THE LATE EVENING.

2. ACCORDING TO YOSHA, PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET REPEATED TO HIM
ESSENTIALLY THE SAME REPORT HE GAVE US OF HIS DILEMMA (REFTEL)
BUT WITH A FEW NEW FACTS AND A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT EMPHASIS ON
TIMING.

3. HOUPHOUET TOLD YOSHA THAT HAMANI DIORI NOW SUPPORTS HOUPHOUET
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AND WANTS HIM TO MAINTAIN RELATIONS. DIORI, WHO BROKE EARLY,

REPORTEDLY SAID HE HAD NO IDEA THAT AFRICAN BREAK WOULD BECOME TOTAL. HE NOW REGRETS HIS BREAK AND WANTS HOUPHOUET TO "SPEAK FOR THE ORPHANS." HOUPHOUET SAID HE TOLD DIORI TO GO EXPLAIN HIS REASONING TO HIS ARAB BROTHERS.

4. IN EXPLAINING HIS FEARS FOR HIS SECURITY HOUPHOUET ALLUDED TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY, WHOSE ASSASSINATION HE LINKED TO KENNEDY'S STAND ON CUBA.

5. ON TIMING, HOUPHOUET TOLD YOSHA HE CAN HOLD OUT UNTIL FRIDAY BECAUSE FOREIGN MINISTER USHER WILL NOT RETURN FROM BRAZIL UNTIL THEN AND DIORI WILL NOT RETURN FROM HIS MISSION TO THE ARABS UNTIL FRIDAY. AFTER THAT HE HOPES TO HOLD OUT UNTIL HE DEPARTS FOR THE PARIS FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT NOVEMBER 11. AFTER THAT HE HOPES TO HOLD OUT DURING HIS ABSENCE FROM THE COUNTRY. BY THAT TIME SOMETHING MAY HAPPEN WHICH WOULD OBVIATE A BREAK.

6. HOUPHOUET REPEATED THAT IF HE IS FORCED TO BREAK HE WILL GIVE YOSHA 24-HOUR NOTICE AND HE WILL STATE SIMPLY THAT HE IS BREAKING FOR THE SAKE OF "AFRICAN SOLIDARITY" AND WILL NOT CENSURE ISRAEL IN ANY WAY.

7. FINALLY, IF BREAK COMES, HOUPHOUET SAID HE WANTED ISRAEL TO CONTINUE THEIR ACTIVITIES IN IVORY COAST TO THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE.

8. YOSHA SAID HE WAS GOING TO TELEPHONE MRS. MEIR'S "KISSINGER" LAST NIGHT AND URGE HER TO MAKE A STATEMENT IN THE KNESSET TO THE EFFECT THAT IF NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN, AND IF THE AFRICANS MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, ISREAL WILL SEEK AND HEED THE ADVANCE OF THE "WISE AFRICAN LEADERS."

9. COMMENT: YOSHA SEEMS IMPRESSED WITH HOUPHOUET'S SECURITY PROBLEM, WHICH HE CONSIDERS SIMILAR TO HIS OWN, BUT SEEMS TO HAVE FOUND SOME NEW HOPE THAT SOMEHOW HOUPHOUET WILL BE ABLE AVOID A BREAK, AT LEAST FOR ANOTHER WEEK OR TEN DAYS.
ROOT

UNQUOTE RUSH

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